PLEASE AMEND THE CLAIMS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. and 2. (Cancelled)
- 3. (Currently Amended) Method as claimed in claim $\frac{2}{2}$ 18 wherein groups R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ represent methyl.
- 4. (Currently Amended) Method as claimed in claim $\frac{2}{2}$ 18 wherein X_1 represents oxygen, X_2 is hydrogen, X_3 is OH and groups R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 represent methyl.
 - 5. (Cancelled)
- 6. (Currently Amended) Method as claimed in claims 1-5.

 Claim 1 18 wherein said liquid compositions containing active chlorine are thickened with a soluble or water-dispersible polymers selected from homo- or co-polymers of acrylic acid or homo- or co-polymers of cross-linked acrylic acid.
 - 7-8. (Cancelled)
- 9. (Currently Amended) Method as claimed in claims 1 to 5

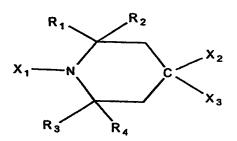
 Claim 1 18 wherein the amount active chlorine is between 0.5-10%

 by weight and the amount of stabilizer is between 0.005% and

 3% by weight
 - 10-16. (Cancelled)
- 17. (New) A liquid detergent composition for domestic and industrial cleaning containing an alkali or alkaline earth hypochlorite stabilized according to the method of Claim 18.

18. (New) Method for stabilizing the viscosity and/or the active chlorine content of a liquid composition containing alkali or alkaline earth hypochlorites comprising the addition to said composition of 0.001% to 5% of a compound belonging to the class of hindered amines of the general formula (I)

Formula I



wherein R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄, which may be the same or different, represent methyl or ethyl; X₁ represents an oxygen atom, an -OH group or an OR₅ group, wherein R₅ represents linear or branched alkyl C₁-C₄ or cyclohexyl; X₂ represents hydrogen and X₃ represents the groups -OH or -NHR₅, wherein R₅ has the meaning described above; or X₂ and X₃, taken together, represent an oxygen atom.